Appln. No.: 09/922,392 MAT-8174US

Amendment Dated: August 5, 2004 Reply to Office Action of: May 5, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-18, 22-29, 33-37, 40, 41, 45-51, 53 and 56 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshioka, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,262,655). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are not patentable over Yoshioka for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

- . . . a first power supply circuit coupled to said main battery . . .
- . . . a second power supply circuit coupled to said main battery . . .

wherein said first power supply circuit and said second power supply circuit are coupled to said main battery in parallel.

As set forth in the originally filed Application at page 11, line 4, et. seq.:

. . . even if one of plural power supply circuits fails, power supply can be continued by the other power supply circuit to the emergency information terminal . . .

The feature of two power supply circuits coupled to a battery in parallel is completely absent from Yoshioka. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Yoshioka.

Claims 40 and 45 are similarly patentable over Yoshioka for the reasons set forth above.

Applicant's claim 46 includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by Yoshioka, namely:

- . . . a first power supply circuit coupled to said main battery . . .
- . . . a second power supply circuit coupled to said auxiliary battery . . .
- . . . said second power supply circuit being separate from said first power supply circuit.

Appln. No.: 09/922,392

Amendment Dated: August 5, 2004 Reply to Office Action of: May 5, 2004

Figure 9 of Yoshioka discloses a single power supply controller 119 coupled to both main battery 108 and auxiliary battery 107. Figure 9, however, neither discloses nor suggests two power supply circuits separate from each other. As set forth in Applicant's specification at page 14, lines 13-16:

If power supply is interrupted due to trouble of the power supply circuit or the light, the terminal can continue to operate with the power from the power supply circuit for feeding power by receiving power from the auxiliary battery. . .

Accordingly, claim 46 is patentable over Yoshioka.

Claim 48 is patentable for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 46.

Claim 49 has been amended to include the feature of "said first powers control device and said second power control device being coupled to said main battery in parallel." As set forth with regard to claim 1, this feature is neither disclosed nor suggested by Yoshioka.

As claim 49 includes a portion of previously filed claim 52. Claim 52 has been appropriately amended.

Claims 53 and 54 have been amended into independent form and include the features which have been included in amended claim 49.

Claim 56 has also been amended to include the features of new claim 49.

New claim 72 and 73 correspond to claims 53 and 54 and, hence, are also allowable.

The remaining dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Appln. No.: 09/922,392 MAT-8174US

Amendment Dated: August 5, 2004 Reply to Office Action of: May 5, 2004

Claims 42-44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshioka (U.S. Patent No. 6,262,655) in view of Yoshioka (U.S. Patent No. 6,392,316). These claims, however, are patentable by virtue of their (indirect) dependency on an allowable independent claim.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515 Attorney for Applicant

LEA:ds

Dated: August 5, 2004

P.O. Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482

(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

August 5, 2004

DS_I:\MAT\8174US\AMEND_01.DOC